

4th Degree Honour Guard Protocol of the K of C - Appendix 513A

4th Degree Honour Guard Protocol of the Knights of Columbus in Parish Liturgy The Alberta Conference of Catholic Bishops April 2010

The Procession

The Knights are welcome to participate in the entrance procession and recessional at special liturgical celebrations and form the appropriate Honour Guard according to the customs already established forming such in the centre aisle only if space permits.

At the entrance, the Honour Guard members will precede the cross bearer by a significant distance thereby allowing the processional cross to be at the head of the liturgical procession. At the recessional when the Honour Guard is formed, it again precedes the liturgical procession. **SWORDS ARE NOT TO BE DRAWN AT ANY TIME IN THE CHURCH.**

Vesture – Hats, Gloves and Ceremonial Swords

1. Remove chapeau immediately after the entrance procession and keep removed until ready for the recessional. The chapeau will then be held in hand, in the prescribed manner, during the whole service. This applies to liturgical celebrations in churches, chapels and outdoor shrines or pilgrimage sites.

Communion will be taken in a bare hand or on the tongue, but never in a gloved hand, as a sign of respect for the sacred species and to avoid any danger of dropping the host or chalice.

2. Ceremonial swords are not to be drawn at any time in a sacred space, again in response to religious sensitivities and traditions. This includes during Honour Guards for entrance procession and recessional, consecration and during outdoor liturgical celebrations.

Swords may be unsheathed in the following circumstances only:

- a) Outside, after the funeral, while the body is being taken to the hearse:
- b) At the graveside ceremony.

Seating

Fourth Degree Honour Guard members will sit at the back of the congregation in order not to obstruct the view of others.